

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional applications ~~is a conversion of the provisional filings~~ Serial No. 60/137,634, filed June 4, 1999, and Serial No. 60/177,020, filed January 19, 2000.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

Inhibitors of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) protease have been approved for use in the treatment of HIV infection for several years. A particularly effective HIV protease inhibitor is ~~(2S,3S,5S)-5-(N-(N-((N-methyl-N-((2-isopropyl-4-thiazolyl)-methyl)amino)carbonyl)-L-valinyl)amino-2-(N-((5-thiazolyl)methoxy-carbonyl)-amino)-1,6-diphenyl-3-hydroxyhexane~~ (2S,3S,5S)-5-(N-(N-((N-methyl-N-((2-isopropyl-4-thiazolyl)-methyl)amino)carbonyl)-L-valinyl)amino)-2-(N-((5-thiazolyl)methoxy-carbonyl)-amino)-1,6-diphenyl-3-hydroxyhexane (ritonavir), which is marketed as NORVIR[®]. Ritonavir is known to have utility for the inhibition of HIV protease, the inhibition of HIV infection, and the enhancement of the pharmacokinetics of compounds which are metabolized by cytochrome P₄₅₀ monooxygenase. Ritonavir is particularly effective for the inhibition of HIV infection when used alone or in combination with one or more reverse transcriptase inhibitors and/or one or more other HIV protease inhibitors.